

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/IT 03/00528

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A23G3/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A23G

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X A	US 3 607 309 A (OLNEY EDWARD S ET AL) 21 September 1971 (1971-09-21) the whole document	1-9, 19 10
X A	EP 1 269 856 A (MIKAKUTO CO LTD) 2 January 2003 (2003-01-02) examples 5, 29	1-9 10, 19
X A	US 5 236 730 A (YAMADA TAKAO ET AL) 17 August 1993 (1993-08-17) column 3, line 8 - column 4, line 47; claims 16, 17	1-9 10
X A	US 2003/124243 A1 (HALLACKER BRIAN C ET AL) 3 July 2003 (2003-07-03) paragraphs '0012! - '0016!	1-9 10
	-/--	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Z document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

4 June 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

15/06/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Gaiser, M

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/IT 03/00528

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2002/197357 A1 (PFEIFFER ERIC JOHN) 26 December 2002 (2002-12-26) paragraphs '0055!, '0056! -----	1

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

ational Application No

PCT/IT 03/00528

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 3607309	A	21-09-1971	DE	1954204 A1	27-05-1970
EP 1269856	A	02-01-2003	JP	2003000148 A	07-01-2003
			CN	1394517 A	05-02-2003
			EP	1269856 A2	02-01-2003
			US	2002197358 A1	26-12-2002
US 5236730	A	17-08-1993	JP	2575325 B2	22-01-1997
			JP	4370063 A	22-12-1992
US 2003124243	A1	03-07-2003	CA	2414924 A1	28-06-2003
US 2002197357	A1	26-12-2002	CA	2440646 A1	19-09-2002
			WO	02071857 A1	19-09-2002